DOL. Thrust him down stairs; I cannot endure
such a fustian rascal.

PIST. Thrust him down stairs! know we not
Galloway nags?

FAL. Quoit him down, Bardolph, like a shove-
groat shilling[2]: nay, if he do nothing but speak
nothing, he shall be nothing here.

ployed in that sense in the northern counties, and by Ben Jonson, in his Poetaster:

" Reach me thy *neif*."

Again, in The Witch of Edmonton, by Rowley, &c. 1658 :

" Oh, sweet ningle, thy *nelfonce* again."

STEEVENS.

So, in A Midsummer-Night's Dream: " Give me thy *neif*, Monsieur Mustard-Seed." MALONE.

[1] — Galloway nags ?] That is, common hacknies. JOHNSON.

a —like a SHOVE-GROAT shilling :] This expression occurs in Every Man in his Humour : " — made it run as smooth off the tongue as a *shove-groat shilling*"

Again, in Humour's Ordinary, by Samuel Rowlands, Satire iv.:

" At *shove-groat*, venter-point, or crosse and pile."

I suppose it to have been a piece of polished metal made use of in the play of shovel-board. See vol. ,iv. p. 21, n. 2. STEEVENS.

Mr. Steevens supposes the *shove-groat* shilling to have been used in the game of shovel-board, by which he seems to infer that the games of *show-groat* and *shovel-board* were the same: but this is apparently a mistake. The former was invented during the reign of Henry the Eighth ; for in the statutes of his 33d year, chap. ix. it is called a *new* game. It was also known by the several appellations of *slide-groat*, *slide-board*, *slide-thrift*, and *slip-thrift*, the first of which was probably adopted from the game being originally played with the silver groats of the time, then nearly as large as modern shillings. When the broad shillings of Edward the Sixth were coined, they were substituted for the groats in this game, and used also at that of *shovel-board*, which seems to have been only a variation of the other on a larger scale. Nothing has occurred to carry it beyond the time of Henry the Eighth ; and from the want of such a term as a *shovel-groat*, it is probably not older than the reign of Edward the Sixth, who first coined the shilling piece. *Shovel-board* is already too well

known to require any description of it in this place: but of the other little seems recorded, or not sufficient to discover the manner in which it was played. Holinshed, or rather Stanihurst, in his History of Ireland, speaking of a mandate for the execution of the Earl of Kildare in the reign of Henry the Eighth, says, that "one night when